

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRAGUE 02468 030726Z

17

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 112846

R 021515Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7061

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2468

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CZ, US

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR

1. NEW CANADIAN AMBASSADOR PIERRE DUMAS PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO PRIME MINISTER STROUGAL, ACTING ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT SVOBODA, ON OCTOBER 1. CONVERSATION WITH STROUGAL AFTERWARD DEALT WITH US-CZECHOSLOVAK RELATIONS IN PART, AND CANADIAN AMBASSADOR FELT STROUGAL'S MESSAGE WAS DESIGNED IN GOOD PART FOR US EARS. THEREFORE HE SENT DCM TO FILL US IN OCTOBER 2, BUT ASKED EARNESTLY THAT WE NOT SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH ANYONE, AND PARTICULARLY NOT WITH ANY OTHER CANADIANS.

2. CANADIANS FEEL CZECHOSLOVAKS HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY LATELY TO BE ESPECIALLY FRIENDLY TO CANADA, AND TREATMENT OF DUMAS REINFORCED THIS FEELING. PRESS TREATMENT (LONG STORY ON PAGE 1 OF RUDE PRAVO, KIND OF STORY USUALLY RESERVED FOR VISITING COMMUNIST BIGWIGS), LENGTH OF CONVERSATION FOLLOWING CEREMONY, AND OTHER INDICATORS ALL SHOW DETERMINEDLY FRIENDLY TREATMENT. CANADIANS THINK THIS IS DIRECTLY LINKED TO CZECHOSLOVAK WORRY ABOUT US RELATIONS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF LONG-GRASS AMENDMENT, AND CZECH DESIRE TO SHOW GREAT CZECHOSLOVAK INTEREST IN BETTER RELATIONS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES. STROUGAL'S REMARKS AS REPORTED IN PRESS DO EMPHASIZE THESE THEMES. (CANADIANS HAVE NOT YET GOT FULL TEXT IN ENGLISH; THEY WERE GIVEN TEXT IN CZECH AND WERE TOLD THAT STROUGAL HIMSELF REWROTE THE SPEECH DURING THE NIGHT, HENCE ENGLOSH TRANSLATION NOT YET AVAILABLE.)

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRAGUE 02468 030726Z

LATION NOT YET AVAILABLE.)

3. IN CONVERSATION FOLLOWING PRESENTATION, STROUGAL TOLD DUMAS THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS PLEASED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS, AND CONSIDERED IT HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT CZECHOSLOVAK-CANADIAN PROPERTY CLAIMS SETTLEMENT WAS REACHED IN 1973. STROUGAL ADDED THAT IT WAS MOST UNFORTUNATE THAT AMERICANS HAD NOT YET SEEN FIT TO EMULATE THE CANADIAN EXAMPLE. HE THEN TOOK UP BILATERAL TRADE IN THIS SAME CONTEXT, AND SAID CZECHOSLOVAKIA HOPED FOR GREATLY INCREASED TRADE WITH THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE SETTLEMENTS HAD BEEN REACHED. BY IMPLICATION, CANADIANS THOUGHT, HE WAS SAYING THAT CZECHOSLOVAK HOPES FOR MUCH GREATER TRADE WITH US WOULD BE DASHED IF US FAILED TO SIGN CLAIMS AGREEMENT. (CANADIANS HERE ARE SENSITIVE TO POSSIBILITY OF THIS KIND OF SHARED INFORMATION REACHING WRONG EARS.)

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE STROUGAL'S MESSAGE TO US, IF SUCH IT IS, IS VERY MUCH DIFFERENT FROM WHAT CZECHOSLOVAKS HAVE BEEN TELLING US DIRECTLY. WE ASSUME US REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN HEARING THIS FROM FOREIGN MINISTER OR OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS AT UN OR IN WASHINGTON. NEVERTHELESS, WE CONSIDER STROUGAL-DUMAS CONVERSATION, ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT OCCASION FOR THE CANADIANS, AS EVIDENCE OF HOW SERIOUSLY CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERSHIP IS TAKING THE LONG-GRAVEL AMENDMENT.

5. PLEASE COMPLY WITH CANADIAN REQUEST FOR PROTECTION.
PERRY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMITY, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PRAGUE02468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740279-0717
From: PRAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741079/aaaacpvb.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <23-Sep-2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PFOR, CZ, US, (DUMAS, PIERRE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005